SB 1239 – RELATING TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB1239, which proposes to reestablish the governor’s authority to nominate and, with the advice and consent of the senate, appoint the members of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i by repealing the Candidate Advisory Council for the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i, upon ratification of a constitutional amendment to article X, section 6, of the Hawai‘i Constitution that deletes provisions related to the Candidate Advisory Council for the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i. The University of Hawai‘i supports this measure.

We believe that repealing the requirement that appointments of the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents be made from pools of qualified candidates presented to the governor by the Candidate Advisory Council for the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai‘i will provide the Governor with more flexibility and choice in identifying and appointing the best possible Regents for the University of Hawai‘i. A similar approach was recently taken for the selection of the Board of Education and this measure would provide a consistent process for both of these important boards.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this measure.